

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A system for managing one or more procedures in a blood collection facility wherein the status of the blood collection procedure performed upon a blood donor and
5 facilitated by an operator can be remotely monitored, the system comprising:

a blood component collection instrument for collecting a blood component from a blood donor;

a blood collection kit having a blood collection kit identifier, the blood collection kit being operably connectable to the blood donor and the blood component collection
10 instrument;

a system server being operably responsive to the blood component collection instrument, the system server comprising a program having a plurality of code segments defining a blood component collection process, the program being capable of monitoring a status of the blood collection kit identifier;

15 an operator interface being operably connected to the system server, the operator interface comprising a reader for entering information to be transmitted to the system server and integrated into the program for monitoring the blood collection kit, the blood component kit identifier being transmitted to the system server via the operator interface; and

20 a display unit being operably connected to the system server wherein the blood collection kit status can be monitored.

2. The system of Claim 1 further comprising:

a donor identifier associated with the blood donor;

25 a blood component collection instrument identifier associated with the blood component collection instrument; and

a blood component collection process number associated with a blood collection procedure the blood collection kit, the blood collection instrument wherein the operator interface transmits the donor identifier, the blood component collection instrument
30 identifier, and the blood component collection process number to the system server.

3. The label of Claim 2 wherein the blood component collection instrument identifier, the blood donor identifier, and the blood component collection process number are associated with the blood collection kit.

5 4. The system of Claim 3 wherein a new label is created in response to a change in status of the blood collection kit.

6. The system of Claim 1 further comprising a blood collection kit inventory database, the blood collection kit inventory database capable of being operably connected
10 to a blood collection kit supply wherein blood collection kits can be replenished at the blood collection facility as needed.

7. The system of Claim 1 comprising:
a communication conduit;
15 a network server being operably connected to the system server via the communication conduit, the network server being capable of connecting to other additional system servers for facilitating several blood collection facilities;
a web interface being operably connected to the system server for facilitating access to the system server; and,
20 a communication protocol for facilitating communication on the communication conduit between the system server and the network server.

8. The system of Claim 7 wherein the communication protocol is Ethernet.

25 9. The system of Claim 8 wherein the communication protocol is TCP/IP.

10. The system of Claim 1 wherein the reader comprises a touch pad for entering information into the program.

30 11. The system of Claim 10 further including a stylus for cooperating with the touch pad wherein written text can be entered.

12. The system of Claim 1 wherein the reader comprises a keypad for entering

information into the program.

13 The system of Claim 1 wherein the reader comprises an optical scanner for entering information into the program.

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14. The system of Claim 1 wherein the reader comprises a magnetic scanner for entering information into the program.

15. The system of Claim 1 wherein the display unit comprises a screen menu for providing information about the blood collection kit.

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16. The system of Claim 1 wherein the display unit comprises an auditory device for aurally providing information about the blood collection kit.

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17. A system for managing one or more procedures in a blood collection facility wherein the status of the blood collection procedure performed upon a blood donor and facilitated by an operator can be remotely monitored, the system comprising:

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a blood collection instrument having a blood collection instrument identifier;
a blood collection kit having a blood collection kit identifier;
a blood donor identifier corresponding to a blood donor;
an operator identifier corresponding to an operator;
an operator interface comprising a means for entering information;
a means for transmitting a wireless communication signal being operably connected to the operator interface, the wireless communication signal including the blood collection kit identifier;

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a receiver for receiving the wireless communication signal from the operator interface;

a communication conduit;

a system server being operably connected via the communication conduit to the blood collection instrument, the system server being capable of generating a blood collection process number in response to the blood donor identifier, the blood collection instrument identifier and the blood collection kit identifier; and,

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a label comprising the blood collection process number, the blood collection

process number being associated with the blood donor, the blood collection instrument and the blood collection kit.

18. The system of Claim 17 wherein the means for entering information comprises
5 a touch pad for receiving the operator identifier, the blood collection instrument identifier, the blood donor identifier or the blood donor identifier.

19. The system of Claim 17 wherein the means for entering information comprises
10 a keypad for receiving the operator identifier, the blood collection instrument identifier, the blood donor identifier or the blood donor identifier.

20. The system of Claim 17 wherein the means for entering information comprises
15 an optical scanner for receiving the operator identifier, the blood collection instrument identifier, the blood donor identifier or the blood donor identifier.

21. The system of Claim 17 wherein the means for entering information comprises
a magnetic scanner for receiving the operator identifier, the blood collection instrument identifier, the blood donor identifier or the blood donor identifier.

22. The system of Claim 17 further comprising a means for displaying information
20 for monitoring the blood collection kit.

23. The system of Claim 22 wherein the means for displaying information
25 comprises:
a screen menu correlating to the blood collection process for accessing various information about the blood collection kit.

24. The system of Claim 22 wherein the means for displaying information
30 comprises:
an auditory device for aurally accessing various information about the blood collection kit.

25. A method for managing one or more operators in a blood collection facility,
the blood collection facility including a blood collection instrument and a blood collection

kit for connecting to a blood donor, the method comprising the steps of:

- providing an operator having an operator identifier;
- providing a blood donor having a blood donor identifier;
- providing a blood collection instrument for collecting a blood component from a
- 5 blood donor, the blood donor having a blood donor identifier and the blood collection instrument having a blood collection instrument identifier;
- providing a blood collection kit, the blood collection kit being operably connected to the blood collection instrument and the blood donor;
- providing a system server having an operating system and a memory, the system
- 10 server having a program defining a blood collection process and being operably connected to the blood collection instrument wherein information related to the blood collection instrument is transmitted to the system server;
- providing a wireless operator interface having a means for entering information, the wireless operator interface being operably connected to the system server;
- 15 generating a blood collection process number, the blood collection process number being associated with the blood collection instrument, the blood collection kit and the blood donor;
- printing a label comprising a status of the blood collection kit;
- affixing the label to the blood collection kit;
- 20 generating a new label in response to a change in the status of the blood collection kit;
- entering information into the wireless operator interface;
- transmitting the change in status of the blood collection kit to the system server;
- storing the change in status of the blood collection kit in the memory; and,
- 25 displaying the information at the wireless operator interface.

26. The method of Claim 25 further comprising:

- entering the blood donor identifier into the wireless operator interface
- transmitting the blood donor identifier to the system server;
- 30 storing the blood donor identifier in the memory;
- entering the blood collection instrument identifier into the operator interface;
- transmitting the blood collection instrument identifier to the system server;
- storing the blood collection instrument identifier in the memory.

entering the blood collection kit identifier into the operator interface;
 transmitting the blood collection kit identifier to the system server;
 storing the blood collection kit identifier in the memory.

5 27. The method of Claim 25 further comprising:
 providing a communication conduit;
 providing a network server being operably connected to the system server via the
 communication conduit;
 providing a communication protocol for facilitating communication on the
 10 communication conduit between the system server and the network server; and,
 displaying information associated with the blood collection kit and stored in the
 memory of the system server.

 28. The method of Claim 27 further comprising:
 15 providing a web server being operably connected to the system server for allowing
 access to the information stored on the system server.

 29. A medium readable by a computer, the medium having an operating interface
 for managing a blood collection facility comprising an operator having an operator
 20 identifier, a blood collection instrument, a blood collection kit and a system server having
 a memory and being operably connected to the blood collection instrument wherein the
 blood collection facility cooperates with a blood donor having a blood donor identifier, the
 medium comprising:

 a first segment for reading information from a blood collection kit;
 25 a second segment for storing the information from the blood collection kit in a
 system server;
 a third segment for reading information from an operator interface;
 a fourth segment for storing the information read from the operator interface in the
 system server;
 30 a fifth segment for associating the information stored in the system server with the
 blood collection kit
 an sixth segment for determining eligibility of the blood donor;
 a seventh segment for generating a blood collection process number;

an eighth segment for associating the blood collection kit to the blood collection process number; and,

a ninth segment for generating a label comprising a status of the blood collection kit.

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30. The medium of Claim 29 further comprising:

a tenth segment for updating the status of the blood collection kit in response to a change in the information stored in the system server and associated with the blood collection kit.

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31. The medium of Claim 30 further comprising:

an eleventh segment for transmitting an alarm identifying an irregularity within the blood collection facility.

